28th March 1955]

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" Will the Hon. Minister at least be chivalrous to his counter-part in giving representation to them in the Cabinet? "

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member perhaps wants representation for ladies in the Cabinet."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" I want to know from which side." (Laughter.)

SRI V. BALAKRISHNAN :—" From the opposite side, Sir."

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Sir, the question of expansion of the Cabinet does not arise at all and therefore all these questions do not arise."

Minimum wages for workers in the tobacco industries.

* 1648 *Q.*—SRI K. P. GOPALAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state the minimum wages for workers in tobacco industry?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" The Government have issued only a preliminary notification regarding the rates of wages proposed to be fixed for the employment in tobacco (including beedi making) manufactory and invited the suggestions and objections to the proposed rates. The question of finally fixing minimum wages is under the consideration of the Government."

Bore wells for Udayarpalayam taluk.

* 1649 *Q.*—

MR. SPEAKER :—" The hon. Member Sri K. R. Viswanathan is not in his place. The question and answer will be printed in the official proceedings."

SRI K. R. VISWANATHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether estimates for sinking borewells for drinking water purposes at Kodukkur and Idaiyakurichi villages in Udaiyarpalayam taluk, Tiruchirappalli district, have been sanctioned;

(*b*) if so, when the works are likely to be commenced; and

(*c*) if not, the reasons for the delay?

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" (*a*) No, Sir.

" (*b*) The estimates for the borewells at Kodukkur have been submitted by the Revenue Divisional Officer, Ariyalur, to the Collector of Tiruchirappalli. The work will be taken up as soon as the estimates are sanctioned by the Collector after

technical scrutiny. The villagers of Edayakurichi have requested that draw wells might be sunk instead of borewells as originally proposed. This is being enquired into.

"(c) Borewells are sunk by the Revenue Department in consultation with the Industries Department and so it usually takes a little longer for the proposals to materialise and the works to start."

Grant of takkavi loans in Kurumbranad taluk.

* 1650 *Q.*—SRI C. KUNHIRAMA KURUP: Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of applications for thakkavi loans received during the year 1953 from Kurumbranad taluk, North Malabar;

(*b*) the number of applications sanctioned; and

(*c*) the amount of loan distributed?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU :—

	By the District Agricultural Officer, Tellicherry.	By the Revenue Department.
"(*a*)	399	5
"(*b*)	258	Nil.
"(*c*)	Rs. 21,260	Nil."

Compulsory elementary education.

* 1651 *Q.*—SRI L. ANANDAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Finance be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that in compulsory elementary education areas no action has been taken against defaulters; and

(*b*) if so, what steps the Government propose to take to make compulsory education effective?

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" (*a*) No, Sir.

" (*b*) Does not arise."

SRI T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR :—" Are Government aware that from 1948 when the Government stopped the supply of mid-day meals to children attending the schools under compulsion, the attendance has fallen? Are the Government also aware that the attendance has fallen mainly due to the poverty of the parents and the stoppage of the mid-day meals? In view of the importance of the matter, will the Government see that the provision of mid-day meals is reintroduced in the areas where there is compulsion?"